

Message Text

SECRET

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2270

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T ACCRA 3109

PERSONAL FOR THE SECRETARY AND AMBASSADORS STOESSEL AND
SCHAUFLE FROM AMBASSADOR BLACK

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), GH, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET INFLUENCE IN GHANA

REF: ACCRA 3107

1. IN PAST FEW DAYS SEVERAL EVENTS HAVE OCCURRED WHICH
THROW INTERESTING LIGHT ON ATTEMPTS BY SOVIETS TO INFLUENCE
GHANA, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO SECRETARY'S VISIT.

2. ROMANIAN CHARGE' BALASIOU TOLD ME LAST EVENING AT SOVIET
AMBASSADOR BERNOV'S RESIDENCE THAT BERNOV IS EXTRAORDINARILY
UNHAPPY THAT SECRETARY IS VISITING GHANA. BERNOV FEELS THIS
IS A CHALLENGE TO EFFORTS HE HAS BEEN MAKING TO RESTORE
SOVEIT-GHANAIAI RELATIONS TO THOSE OF TIHE BEFORE FALL OF
NKRUMAH.

3. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON A GHANAIAI FRIEND CAME TO ME AT CHANCERY
TO EXPRESS HIS "SHOCK" THAT OFFICERS OF SOVIET EMBASSY WERE
AT UNIVERSITY OF GHANA (LEGON) DURING DAY AGITATING AMONG
STUDENTS TO STAGE A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST SECRETARY DURING
ACCRA VISIT.

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4. ALSO AT DINNER LAST EVENING AT BERNOV'S RESIDENCE, I TOOK OCCASION OT MENTION THIS "AGITATION" TO MY HOST AND SAID I WAS SURPRISED THIS WAS BEING DONE. HE, IN TURN, EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND SAID, "I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT IT."

5. THIS MORNING AT MEETING WITH COMMISSIONER FELLI I COMMENTED THAT SOVIETS APPEARED TO BE EXERTING HEAVY-HANDED PRESSURE THROUGH GHANAIAI TIMES (EDITOR OF WHICH IS RADICAL NKRUMAHIST) NEWS STORIES AS WELL AS WITH STUDENTS TO EMBARRASS US DURING VISIT. FELLI AGREED WITH COMMENT ON SOVIET MEDDLING AND SAID HIS MINISTRY AND GOG INTELLIGENCE SERVICES WERE IN CONTACT WITH GHANAIAIS WHO HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY SOVIETS.

6. FELLI AND GOG ARE DETERMINED THAT VISIT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL AND HAVE ASSURED ME OF FULL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT. FELLI SAID HE HAD TALKED TO GHANAIAI PRESS YESTERDAY AND MADE CLEAR TO PRESS THAT GOG WANTS PEACEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE VISIT. FELLI SAID "EVEN THE EDITOR OF THE GHANAIAI TIMES NOW WANTS TO MAKE THE VISIT A SUCCESS." I SAID, "YOU ARE A MIRACLE MAN." HE REPLIED, "NO, ONLY A GHANIAN."
BLACK

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